

REMARKS

Claims 7-25, 29, 30 and 40-81 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 14 and 16 are amended, and claims 40-81 are added. Support for claims 40-81 can be found in the specification, for example, at pages 27-33, Fig. 5 and in the original claims. Claims 14 and 16 are amended for clarity. No new matter is added. Claims 1-6, 26-28 and 31-39 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 7-15, 17-25, 29 and 30 are allowed.

The Office Action rejects claims 5, 33 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 5, 33 and 35 are canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 16, 26-28, 31, 34, 36, 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kayama et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2007/0081133). Claims 1-3, 26-28, 31, 34, 36, 38 and 39 are canceled, rendering the §102(e) rejection of those claims moot. Further, claim 16 now depends from allowable claim 7. Thus, the §102(e) rejection is moot.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

New claims 40-52 are also patentable for at least their dependence on allowed independent claims 7 or 17, as well as for the additional features they recite. New claim 53 is patentable for at least its features similarly recited in allowed claims 7 and 17, as well as for the additional features it recites. New claims 54-68 are patentable for at least their dependence on independent claim 53, as well as for the additional features they recite.

New claims 69, 75 and 77 are patentable for at least their features similarly recited in allowed claims 7 and 17, and claim 53, as well as for the additional features they recite. New

claims 70-74, 76 and 78-81 are patentable for at least their dependence on independent claims 69, 75 or 77, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 7-25, 29, 30 and 40-81 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Amendment Transmittal

Date: February 9, 2010

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